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SCHILLER'S MARIA STUART.

Schiller's Maria Stuart, by MARGARETHE MÜLLER and CARLA WENCKEBACH. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1900. xxx+262 pp.

WITH commendable care and industry the editors have elaborated apparatus whereby a German classic is made available for the English-speaking student, without any admixture of his native language. Translation is an excellent exercise in one's own idiom, and belongs properly, in American colleges, to the department of English. The desire to deal with immediate realities in the study of a foreign language is laudable, and every influence should be welcomed which tends to bring the student into direct intimacy with the pure source; the question as to the particular steps to be taken in order to master the technique of a foreign tongue is too broad to discuss here.

In general, the book is adapted to do its best work with students who are in their third year of college instruction in German. The introduction covers the facts in which an intelligent student is chiefly interested. It would have been preferable to number the lines of the text consecutively, rather than by separate pages. A cursory glance gives the impression that the text is carefully, though not critically edited; unfortunately I have not the new edition of Goedeke's text at hand. There is, for instance, inconsistency in the use of apostrophes (cf. 97, line 5, and 111, line 17). In the stage-direction after 98, line 9, "Leicester" seems wrongly put for *Paulet*. After 99, line 3, "Leicester" is printed for *Leicestern*, after 102, line 14, "Tone" for *Ton*; 105, line 11, "unterwegs" for *unterweges*; 107, line 8, the word "ihr" should be spaced.

The notes show pedagogic experience. Words of foreign extraction are used to the full limit of what is allowable, and the besetting sin of all commentators, the annexation of information which does not bear upon the artistic purpose of the author, is not entirely avoided, as in the detailed facts about the castle of Fotheringhay, or in giving the date when the lily was taken into the arms of France. A few positive corrections are to be made: To 167, line 13, for "Chorinther" read

Corinther; to 117, line 10, for "anathemo" read *anathema*. The note to 12, line 8, "mein geängstigt fürchtend Herz," demands a more detailed historical explanation of the neuter form than "Schiller lässt öfters attributive Adjektive unflektiert." While it may be true, according to the note to 22, line 30, that the "katholische Kirche begünstigt eine heitere sinnliche Lebensfreude," it would be merely just to add that the same church has been the fountain-head of ascetic pietism. The note to 129, line 4, "Maria = die Jungfrau Maria" is doubtless correct, but does not the outcry "Maria, heil'ge, bitt' für mich!" also include, by a fine poetic inconsistency, the earthly object of Mortimer's admiration?

In closing, I venture to express what often occurs in dealing with German criticism; namely, the wish there might be more of an attitude of piety toward the stately traditions of the English tongue, which, although its study is not the object of courses in German literature, is, after all, a language worthy of great respect on the part of those who represent a newer culture. It is trying to one's historical sensibilities to meet with "Fletscher" for *Fletcher*, "Wasch" for *Wash*, "Buckhorst" for *Buckhurst*, "King face" for *King's face*, and the like; in this list must also be included the sentence in the preface: "The new feature of this edition is the development questions."

JAMES TAFT HATFIELD.

Northwestern University.

SPANISH GRAMMAR.

A Brief Spanish Grammar, with Historical Introductions and Exercises, by A. HJALMAR EDGREN, Ph. D. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1900.

WE have this very useful book now before us in its third issue. It has been successively improved, but it is to be regretted that the latest revision should not have been more thorough and complete.

It is the belief of the present writer that this grammar, in spite of imperfections, is the best available for the teaching of elementary Spanish, and from this standpoint, and in the spirit of friendly criticism, the following sug-